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METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROCESSING NETWORK DATA PACKETS INVENTOR:

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system for processing network data packets using a hardware engine is provided. The system includes, a TCP Table manager for managing a TCP connection's state information by providing a pool of buffers used for various data structures and providing plural registers and timer functions to various system sub-modules. The TCP Table manager maintains a free list of data structures that are used for storage of TCP connection state and for torage of TCP transfer requests. The system also includes an outbound TCP processor that takes requests from a host to transmit TCP data and an inbound IP fragment processor that receives IP datagram fragments and manages the reassembly of in-process datagrams. The IP fragment processor includes an input processor for parsing data packet header information, assembling datagrams, and interfacing with an output processor and a return processor.